JULY 2012

VOLUME 5,

Sage Winds

National Weather Service - Boise, Idaho www.weather.gov/boise

Fire On The Front Range

COCORAHS OBSERVERS SERVING NWS SKYWARN SPOTTERS **مح** CO-OP OBSERVERS

Most notably, the Waldo Canyon Wildfire, which started June 23rd as a brush fire just three miles west of Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Three days later, the fire erupted in response to 65 mph outflow winds from a nearby thunderstorm. By the evening of the 26th, the fire had blasted eastward toward Colorado Springs, jumped containment lines, burned hundreds of homes near the city perimeter, and taken two lives.

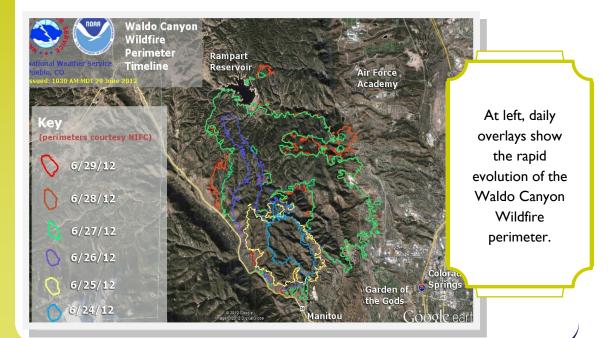
With this devastation, the Waldo Canyon Wildfire became the single most destructive fire in Colorado wildfire history. As of July 1st, the fire was still burning.

Waldo Canyon: By The Numbers (As Of 7/01/12)

- 2 fatalities
- 346 homes/structures destroyed
- 17,659+ acres burned
- 36, 000 evacuees
- 55% contained

Other Notable Fires

- Seeley Fire; Near Price Valley UT
- Arapaho Fire; SE of Casper, WY
- Fontonelle Fire; Western WY
- Dahl Fire; N of Billings, MT

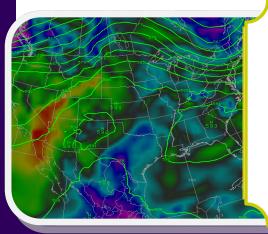


...And The Heat Is On...

Someone please turn on the air conditioning! A massive ridge of high pressure remained parked over the central and southeastern United States today. This overpowering, stagnant weather pattern caused sweltering heat and humidity across much of the nation. NWS forecasters saw the pattern developing early, and were able to issue Watches, Warnings, and Advisories alerting people to the impending heat. Most recent model information has this area of high pressure ret-

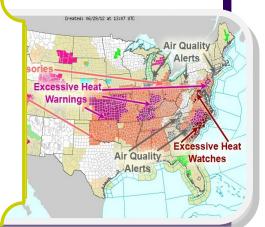
rograding west, toward the Great Basin, by the end of the week. You know what that means, right? Things are going to heat up!

If you find yourself frustrated with the afternoon sun, just remember that it's still better than being in Hill City, Kansas on June 26th, where the temperature peaked at 115 degrees. (Which proved to be one part of a five-day streak of temperatures topping 110 degrees, and with a much higher dewpoint!)



At left, the significant ridge of high pressure over the southern U.S.

At right, some of the effects of this pattern, as seen on the NWS' Watch/Warning/ Advisory map on June 30th.



Severe Weather of June 4th

By Jay Breidenbach, WCM

A strong cold front combined with thunderstorms to create a widespread wind event with embedded severe thunderstorms. This was a

"hybrid" event, because in most cases the high wind speeds were the result of the combination of the cold front and convective downdrafts, neither of which were strong enough individually to cause the observed damage. One exception was a severe thunderstorm which evolved into a bow echo and moved

through the West-Central Mountains between 8 and 9 pm MDT. This storm cause the most severe damage. In the mountains, it was impossible to determine the amount of impact the front had compared to the storm system.



At left, the shelf cloud associated with storm that brought 60-70 mph winds to Adams & Valley counties.

BOI.SPOTTER @ NOAA.GOV

Stop On By!

The Boise and Pocatello weather forecast offices will be manning a unified NWS information booth at the upcoming Magic Valley Air Show. We'd love for you to stop and chat with us!

What: Magic Valley Air Show 2012Where: Twin Falls, Idaho (Joslin Field)When: July 27th and 28th

http://www.airmagicvalley.org/



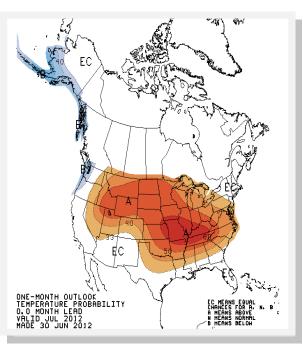
Weather In The News

"Rare Derecho Storm Ravaged Washington Area" - ABC News

"Millions Without Power As Stifling Heat Wave Hammers Eastern US" - MSNBC

June 29, 2012 Derecho Event Summary— NWS: Northern Indiana WFO

July Outlook



Temperature Outlook <<

Precipitation
Outlook
>>

